Maharashtra Special Economic Zones and Designated Areas Bill, 2006

4468. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government had submitted a proposal to the Government of India on 11th May, 2006 for administrative approval to the Maharashtra Special Economic Zones and Designated Areas Bill, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is still pending with the Government of India;

(c) whether a number of reminders were sent to the Ministry, but no action has been taken by Government so far; and

(d) if so, what are the main reasons for the delay and by when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Maharashtra Special Economic Zones and Designated Areas Bill, 2006 sent by the Government of Maharashtra seeking prior approval of the Government of India for introduction of the Bill in the State Legislature was received by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 1st June, 2006.

(b) to (d) As the subject matter of the Bill pertained to various administrative Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs sought comments of these Ministries/Departments. Clarifications sought by some of the Ministries/Departments were sought from the State Government on 12th January 2007 and reply received from the State Government on 23rd March 2007 has been referred back to the concerned Ministries/Departments for their comments/no objection. No time frame can be fixed for finalizing the decision of the Central Government on this Bill.

Export of wheat, rice pulses, sugar vegetables and fruits

4469. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of wheat, rice, pulses, sugar, vegetables, fruits during 2006-07, item-wise, indicating FOB prices of export;

(b) whether Government took into consideration the internal consumption of above mentioned items in the country and allowed only surplus to be exported; and

(c) which are the countries importing Indian agriculture produce/ products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The total export of wheat, rice, pulses, sugar, during April, 2006—December, 2006 is as under:—

Item	Quantity MTs	Value Rs. crores	Unit price realization per Kg (FOB)
Wheat	46137	34.91	7.6
Basmati Rice	753938	1960.84	26
Non Basmati Rice	2610524	2942.32	11.3
Pulses (Dal)	213551	652.08	30.5
Sugar	1140549	2402.22	21.1
Vegetable	NA	1081.38	NA
Fruits	NA	964.28	NA
TOTAL:		10038.03	

Source: DGCI&S/APEDA

(b) and (c) The export of Indian products including Agricultural products are governed by Foreign Trade Policy which is formulated keeping interest of all stakeholders including domestic consumers. Major export destination/ major importing countries for Indian agricultural products are European Union, USA, Gulf countries, China and Japan.

Industrialization in North East

4470. SHRI O.T LEPCHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make investment for industrialization in North Eastern Region, including Sikkim, during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;